

Fact Sheet



Mid-America Tanning Company Superfund Site Sergeant Bluff, Iowa

May 2000

Introduction

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has prepared this fact sheet to provide additional information to the Sergeant Bluff community about activities at the Mid America Tanning (MAT) Company Superfund Site in Woodbury County, Iowa.

Site Background

The MAT site is about seven miles south of Sioux City and four miles south of Sergeant Bluff. It is located in an industrial area known as the Port Neal Industrial District. The site is approximately 100 acres. Hides were processed on the site from 1970 to 1989. The tanning operations produced a wastewater stream that contained high levels of chromium. Contaminated sludges from the wastewater treatment plant at the site were deposited in basins and lagoons, buried in trenches, and land farmed on the site. Occasional spills and overflows also caused chromium contamination of surrounding soils.

Site Update

The site's Record of Decision (ROD), the final remedial action plan, was issued in September 1991. The purpose of the ROD is to present the remedy selected, provide reason for the selected remedy, and establish performance goals for the site. EPA issued an amended Record of Decision (ROD) in July 1996 because hydrogen sulfide gas was discovered at concentrations that posed health risks. The remedy, as amended, included removal of water from the lagoons and basins; treatment and discharge of those contaminated waters; consolidation and capping of contaminated soils; decontamination of buildings; installation of a floating cover over the two lagoons remaining at the site; and leveling piles of dirt on the site and planting grass seeds.

EPA then completed the engineering design of the remedy in 1998. Bids were awarded in April 1999. Construction began June 15, 1999 and essentially was completed December 1999.

Site Activities

The final inspection was conducted on May 19, 2000. EPA plans to proceed to the operation and maintenance stage, which will include activities such as inspection and maintenance of the floating cover, capped soil areas, and fences. EPA will carefully monitor the site through five-year reviews to ensure that the remedy at the site remains protective of human health and the environment.

Additional Information Sources

If you have questions about this fact sheet or would like additional information, please contact:

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